



Old lookout tower offers majestic glimpse of county

Palomar State Park has commanding view

PALOMAR MOUNTAIN — The beautiful forest and mountain meadows of Palomar Mountain State Park are in northern San Diego County on the west side of Palomar Mountain.

Large pine, fir and cedar trees make the park one of the few areas in Southern California with a Sierra Nevada-like atmosphere.

Elevation within the park averages 5,000 feet above sea level, making evenings cool even during the summer. A number of vista points, including the old lookout tower on the southern peak, offer sweeping panoramic views both westerly toward the ocean and inland toward the desert.

From Highway 76, either

of two roads access the park. The one from Rincon Springs (Highway S6) is scenic but rather steep and winding. Highway S7 from Lake Henshaw is longer, but its gentle grade makes it more suitable for heavily loaded vehicles and those pulling trailers.

To the east, beyond the

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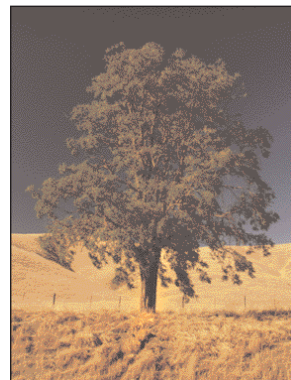
ROD DEUTSCHMANN

Palomar Mountain State Park features spectacular views of the Pacific, camping, picnicking, hiking and trout fishing in Doane Pond. Coniferous forests cover much of the 1,897 acres, in contrast to the dry lowlands surrounding the mountain. It's one of the few Southern California areas with a Sierra Nevada-like atmosphere.

Photography tips that work — *for both digital and traditional photographers*



Keep it steady: Proper camera handling techniques can make or break that important photo. (*Your marksmanship training will come in handy here.*)



Isolation: Keeping your photography (and your subject matter) simple will definitely help when you begin shooting.

■ No matter what type of camera you own, some simple steps can help you shoot better every time

ROD DEUTSCHMANN
AT EASE EDITOR

Photography isn't the brain surgery some would have you believe. Having the latest equipment or the most megapixels isn't going to make you a great photographer.

Opening your eyes will.

And while this seems to be an obvious requirement for photography, you would be amazed at just how many people don't care about what shows up in their viewfinders — and hence on their pictures.

COMMON SENSE 101:

■ Since we were born, we (humans, to be exact) have been able to concentrate only

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Church choir to give concert — and more

■ Dallas ensemble to follow up free show and food with free Bible and basketball camps

BRIAN LA MAY
MANAGING EDITOR

Grady Chism is bringing 155 teenagers all the way from Texas to honor Pendleton Marines, sailors and family members with song. But their caroling in two performances Saturday will herald larger blessings than just a free show.

Chism, director of the Youth Choir and Orchestra

from the First Baptist Church of Dallas, will spearhead a showering of glad tidings driven by appreciation for the military. The outreach, dubbed the "Festival of Freedom," will include free, weeklong Bible and basketball camps for first-through sixth-graders at Marine Memorial and South Mesa chapels.

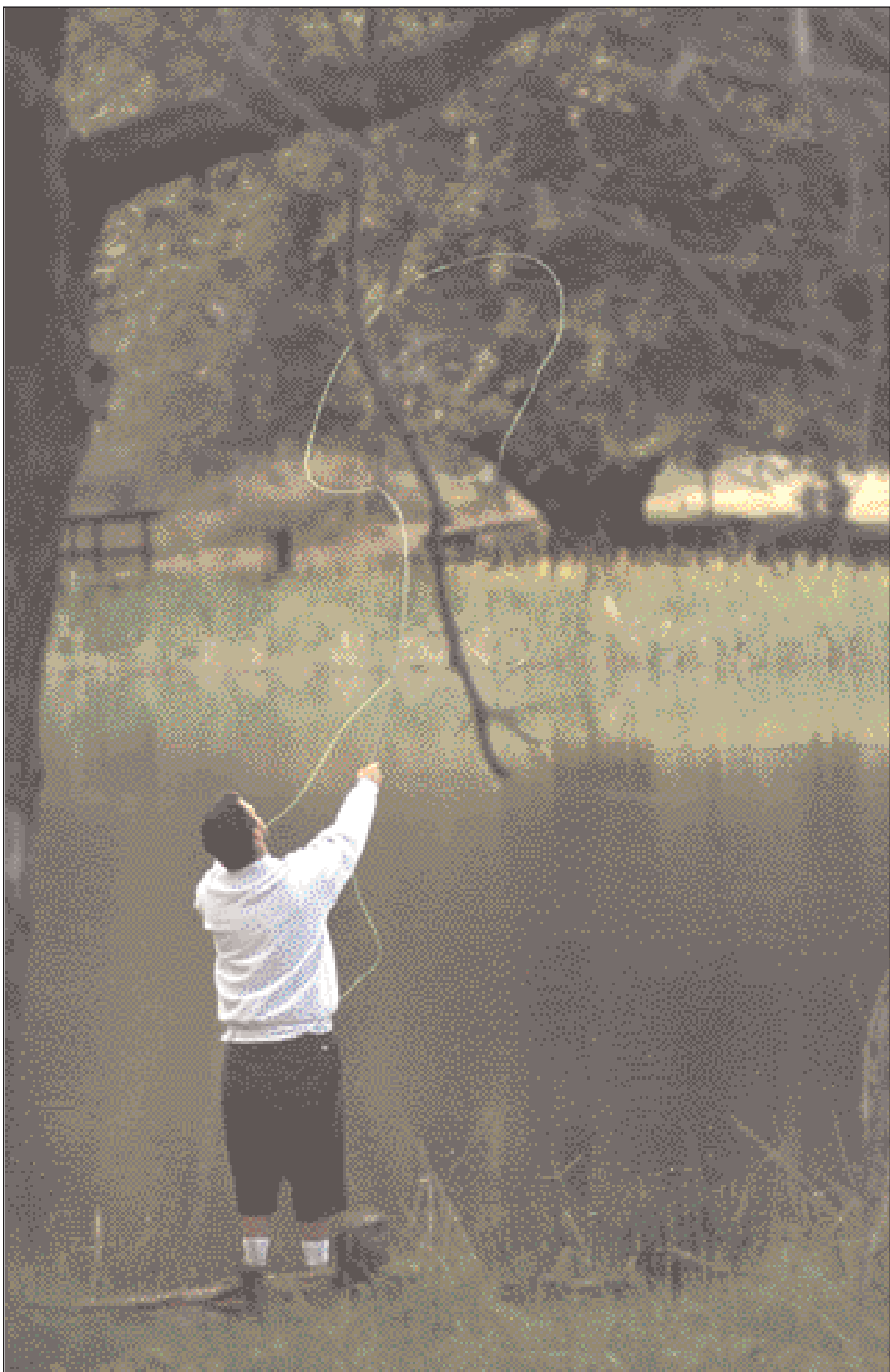
But there's more. Saturday's concertgoers won't go hungry.

The concert will bring a repeat performance from New Song Community Church of Oceanside and parachapel organizations here — groups that know a

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Fishing hot spots of San Diego Have Rod And Reel Will Travel

Destinations galore await anglers new to county



ROD DEUTSCHMANN

With more than 25 lakes to choose from, San Diego County offers something for the angler in all of us

SAN DIEGO — If you're into fishing, San Diego has a lot to offer. Besides the obvious ocean fishing, there are plenty of fresh-water streams and lakes in the county filled to the brim with many different types of fish. Following is a short list of some of the best fishing spots in the county.

■ **San Vicente Reservoir:** Home of California largest freshwater "fish" — a 101-pound blue catfish caught in 2000 — San Vicente is a prime bass lake that regularly hosts fishing tournaments

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SAN DEIGO FAVORITES

■ **Lake Cuyamaca:** The only San Diego lake to receive four seasons. Set in the high elevations of the Cuyamaca Mountains, the 110-acre lake sits at 4,620 feet above sea level in the mountains northeast of San Diego. Due to the colder climate, the lake is ideal for year-round trout fishing with more than 42,000 pounds of trout stocked yearly. The park is open every day from 6 a.m. to sunset year-round. There is a paved launch ramp for private boats, a boat dock and a jetty for fishermen. Trails lead to and from the lake and cover miles of mountainous terrain for hikers.

Directions: From San Diego, take Interstate 8 about 40 miles east to Highway 79, then go north 10 miles.

■ **Lower Otay Reservoir:** One of the long-standing premiere bass fisheries on the West Coast, the Lower Otay Reservoir boasts equal amounts of quality and quantity bass fishing. Until the recent 101-pound record catch at San Vicente, Lower Otay held the state record for blue catfish at 85 pounds, 9 ounces. Other blues in the 80-pound class have been caught here. Lower Otay is about 30 minutes from downtown, eight miles east of Chula Vista. Rental rowboats and motorboats are available for fishing and recreational boating. Private boaters are welcome and pay a small launch ramp usage fee. Canoes, kayaks and float tubes are permitted.

Directions: From Interstate 805, take Telegraph Canyon Road, exit east to Wueste Road and go south to the reservoir entrance. From Highway 94, take Otay Lakes Road south to Wueste Road, follow to entrance.

Confusion clouds Sea World's 'freebie' war-vet promotion

Military members and their families looking for a free ticket to Sea World's latest attraction "Journey To Atlantis" need to read the fine print before they head to ITT to get their tickets.



■ Some active-duty still eligible for free admission

BRIAN LA MAY
MANAGING EDITOR

Untold numbers of military personnel and their families are entitled to a free trip to Sea World —

but some who think they are wind up unpleasantly surprised.

That's the story from Camp

More stress than smiles over recent promotion

Pendleton's Information, Tickets and Tours, which received clarifica-

tion from Sea World officials June 6 on a promotion that's intended to honor military personnel but seems to be crossing a few wires.

The promotion, launched May 31 and dubbed "Operation Homecoming," offers free admission to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom veterans who were unable to capitalize on last year's free admission promotion,

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